

Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC)



Mission

The LCAC's mission is to land heavy vehicles, equipment, personnel, and cargo in amphibious assaults.

General Information

The LCAC is the latest generation of amphibious assault landing craft. Combining the heavy lift capacity of the surface assault with high speeds of helicopter-borne assault, the LCAC adds a new dimension to the capabilities of amphibious forces. It is capable of traveling over land and water. At over-the-horizon (OTH) distances of 12 to 100 nautical miles, LCAC offers the military planner another method for attaining surprise when conducting amphibious operations.

The addition of air cushion technology adds high speed and long range to surface-borne amphibious operations. Additional flexibility is provided by LCAC's ability to operate independent of tides and hydrographic constraint. In some cases, the LCAC will have a significant ability to influence operations beyond the high water mark. Weather can affect LCAC operations, but it is less of a factor than for other ship-to-shore delivery means.

Characteristics

Length overall (off cushion)	81 feet
Length overall (on cushion)	87 feet, 11 inches
Width overall (off cushion)	43 feet, 8 inches
Width overall (on cushion)	47 feet
Height (on cushion)	23 feet, 8 inches
Cargo deck length	67 feet
Cargo deck width (maximum)	27 feet
Cargo deck	1,809 square feet
Troop capacity	24
Bow ramp width	28 feet, 4 inches
Bow ramp angle	14 degrees
Stern ramp width	14 feet, 10 inches
Stern ramp angle	14 degrees
Cargo capacity (design)	60 tons
Cargo capacity (overload)	75 tons
Displacement (full load)	166.6 tons
Displacement (capacity load)	181.6 tons
Speed	40+ knots
Range	200 nautical miles
Propulsion (turbo fan 40B gas turbines)	4
Crew	5

Landing Craft Utility (LCU)



Mission

The LCU's mission is to land heavy vehicles, equipment, personnel, and cargo in an amphibious assault.

General Information

The LCU is a highly versatile craft; like others of the landing craft family, it has been adapted for many uses including salvage operations, ferry boats for vehicles and passengers, and underwater test platforms. It is a self-sustaining craft with the typical habitability features found aboard ships. Its welded steel hull provides high durability with deck loads of 800 pounds per square foot. Arrangement of machinery and equipment has taken into account built-in redundancy in the event of battle damage. The craft features two engine rooms separated by a watertight bulkhead to permit limited operation in the event that one engine room is disabled. An anchor system is installed on the starboard side aft to assist in retracting from the beach.

Characteristics

Length (overall)	135 feet
Width (overall)	29 feet, 6 inches
Height (mast folded)	17 feet, 9 inches
Cargo deck length	121 feet
Cargo deck width (maximum)	25 feet
Cargo deck	1,850 square feet
Displacement (loaded)	437 tons
Troop capacity (on deck)	400
Bow ramp width	14 feet, 3 inches
Stern ramp width	18 feet
Cargo capacity	143 tons
Speed	12 knots
Range	1,200 nautical miles
Propulsion (diesel)	2
Draft fore	3 feet, 6 inches
Draft aft	6 foot, 10 inches
Crew	11